



**RE: Communications regarding Southwest Rice Mill**

02/01/2012 03:40 PM

(b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) @BNSF.com>

To: (b)(6), (b) (7) /R6/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc: (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) @BNSF.com>

History: This message has been replied to.

1 attachment



20120131201227.pdf

Dear (b)(6), (b) (7) ,

Thank you for taking the time yesterday afternoon to discuss your request. As I mentioned over the phone, BNSF Railway is happy to cooperate with you and EPA in responding to your request.

Based on our conversation, I understand that you would like to receive copies of all e-mail correspondence from any employee or representative of Southwest Rice Mill (specifically including (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) ) to (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) (Manager of Environmental Remediation for BSNF) regarding a petroleum release that occurred in late May 2011 in or near Crowley, LA. You also indicated you would like any relevant email responses from (b)(6), (b) at BNSF to (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) . BNSF Railway has identified six e-mails that meet these criteria. Four are e-mails from (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) to (b)(6), (b) , and two are from (b)(6), (b) to (b) . (b)(6), (b) (7) . Attached are copies of the e-mails including attachments.

During our conversation, I also provided a brief historical summary based on my knowledge of BNSF's very limited involvement investigating a report of the release. You indicated that it was helpful, so I provide it again here for easy reference. My understanding is that (b)(6), (b) received a call from the BNSF Service Interruption Desk (SID) that a release had been reported to have occurred near a rail track from a pipeline connected to an aboveground storage tank in or near Crowley, LA. On May 29, 2011, (b)(6), (b) sent a BNSF employee from the Lafayette office to check the BNSF right-of-way in and around Crowley between certain BNSF right-of-way mileposts, but the employee did not find any evidence of a release or remediation efforts on or adjacent to BNSF property. As documented in one of the attached e-mails, the following day Monday May 30, 2011, (b)(6), (b) confirmed the location of the affected tank with (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) . (b)(6), (b) has no recollection or documentation of whether (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) initially called (b) or whether (b) called (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) . Following confirmation of the tank location by (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) on May 30, (b)(6), (b) quickly contacted BNSF property management resources to determine whether the tank or the pipeline was on property owned by BNSF. Research demonstrated that BNSF did not own the parcels with the tank or pipeline. (b)(6), (b) subsequently received e-mails from (b) . (b)(6), (b) (7) on Tuesday May 31 in which (b)(6), (b) (7)(C) wrote that (b) was being told by Union Pacific Railroad that the parcels were owned by BNSF. Property tax records included with

one of the e-mails, however, provided additional verification that the parcels were not owned by BNSF, but were owned by the Union Pacific Railroad. Subsequent phone calls between (b)(6). (b)(6), (b)(7) and personnel from Union Pacific further confirmed that Union Pacific Railroad's Legal Dept. and Real Estate Dept. were investigating ownership of the parcels. Accordingly, BNSF took no further action regarding the reported release.

I trust that this e-mail and the attached documents satisfy your request, but please call or e-mail me as if that is not the case. Please also call me with any questions. Thank you.

Yours truly,

(b)(6), (b)(7)  
Senior General Attorney  
BNSF Railway  
(b)(6), (b)(7)

From: (b)(6), (b)(7) @epamail.epa.gov [mailto:(b)(6), (b)(7) @epamail.epa.gov]  
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 2:20 PM  
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)  
Subject: Communications regarding Southwest Rice Mill

Greetings, my name is (b)(6), (b)(7). I am a special agent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of this email is the request of any email communication, including attachments, with parties involved in/ communicating on behalf of the Southwest Rice Mill incident in May of 2011 in Crowley, Louisiana. For clarification, I am requesting the communications relative to the oil spill adjacent to Southwest Rice Mill, also known as the incident associated with (b)(6), (b)(7)(C).

If I may be of any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

(b)(6), (b)(7)  
Special Agent  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Criminal Investigation Division  
6100 Corporate Blvd., Suite 350  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
(b)(6), (b)(7) - Desk  
(b)(6), (b)(7) - Cell